

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 NSC-05 EB-07 CIAE-00 INR-07

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FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9926

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION OECD PARIS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EIND, EGEN, GW

SUBJECT: FRG RAW MATERIALS POLICY

REF: BONN 6861

1. EMBOFF CALLED ON ECONOMICS MINISTRY RAW MATERIALS
EXPERT SAMES TO DISCUSS THE STATUS OF FRG DELIBERATIONS
ON RAW MATERIAL POLICY IN THE WAKE OF THE COLLAPSE OF
THE PARIS ENERGY PREPCON. SAMES WHO IS THE DIRECTOR
OF THE OFFICE OF RAW MATERIALS POLICY IN THE ENERGY
DIVISION SAID THAT IT WAS THE FIRM POSITION OF THE
ECONOMICS MINISTRY THAT THERE BE NO CHANGE IN THE FRG
POSITION AGAINST THE PRICE INDEXATION, BUFFER STOCKS,
OR EXPANSION OF THE COMMUNITY'S EXPORT STABILIZATION
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SCHEME ON A WORLDWIDE BASIS. HE WAS CONFIDENT THAT

THIS POSITION WOULD BE UPHOLD DURING THE FORTHCOMING CABINET REVIEW OF THE BROAD RANGE OF GERMAN POLICIES VIS-A-VIS THE LDCS. SAMES SAID THAT THE ONLY CONCESSIONS HE FORESAW IN THE RAW MATERIALS SECTOR MIGHT BE AN EXPANSION OF THE IMF COMPENSATORY FINANCING FUND AND PERHAPS A WILLINGNESS TO CONSIDER CERTAIN COMMODITY AGREEMENTS ON A SELECTIVE CASE BY CASE BASIS.

2. SAMES STRESSED THAT IN HIS VIEW THE FRG HAD LITTLE REASON TO DRASTICALLY MODIFY ITS CURRENT RAW MATERIAL POLICIES. HE NOTED THAT RAW MATERIAL MARKETS ARE FUNCTIONING WELL NOW AND THAT GERMANY HAS NO SUPPLY SHORTAGES. HE SAID THAT THE PRIVATE SECTOR WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR RAW MATERIAL SUPPLIES IN GERMANY AND HE SAID THAT IN HIS CONTACTS WITH THE INDUSTRY HE DETECTS NO DESIRE TO TINKER WITH THE INTERNATIONAL MARKET STRUCTURE.

3. COMMENT. SAMES' VIEWS INDICATE THAT THE DEFENDERS OF THE FRG'S TRADITIONAL FOREIGN ECONOMIC POLICY OBJECTIVES ARE DIGGING IN THEIR HEELS IN THE CASE OF RAW MATERIALS AT LEAST AND ARE RESISTING ANY FUNDAMENTAL POLICY CHANGES TO MEET THE DEMANDS OF THE OPEC/LDC BLOCK. IN A SEPARATE CONVERSATION AN AID MINISTRY OFFICIAL ACKNOWLEDGED THAT HIS AGENCY'S PROPOSALS FOR A MORE FORTHCOMING APPROACH TO THE LDC DEMANDS WERE FACING ROUGH SLEDDING DURING THE CURRENT INTERMINISTERIAL REVIEW PROCESS.
HILLENBRAND

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